

AGN. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

MAY 11, 2004

Jury service is one of the most important components of our nation's judicial system.

To perform this vital function, jurors are required to make some temporary adjustments in their daily lives, including absence from work and other normal activities.

This inconvenience must be weighed against the important role jury service plays in our judicial system and in the pursuit of justice.

We extend our appreciation to those citizens who fulfill their civic duty by serving on juries and helping to assure that our justice system functions properly and fairly.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors adopt the attached resolution declaring the week of May 10-14 the "Juror Appreciation Week" in the County of Los Angeles.

# # #

MDA:aplmc

Motions: juror appreciation week 5-11-04

MOTION

MOLINA	_____
BURKE	_____
YAROSLAVSKY	_____
ANTONOVICH	_____
KNABE	_____

**PROCLAMATION for  
JUROR APPRECIATION WEEK  
May 10-14, 2004**

WHEREAS, the United States of America has been the worldwide symbol of individual liberty and a beacon of hope and opportunity for more than two centuries; and

WHEREAS, our system of criminal and civil justice plays a vital role in preserving our liberties, and protecting the rights which have been guaranteed to us by the Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the jury is the ultimate safeguard of our constitutional rights, including the right to be free in our person and property; and

WHEREAS, the Founding Fathers of this nation provided in the 7th Amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America a guarantee of the right of trial by jury in civil matters; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Jefferson has described the jury "as the only anchor ever yet imagined by man, by which a government can be held to the principles of its constitution"; and

WHEREAS, being called to serve on a jury is more than a mere opportunity to participate in the process of civil governance, it is a call to civic duty, a call to serve in a position of honor and to carry out a sacred trust; and

WHEREAS, our citizens must continually be reminded of how fundamentally important it is to the preservation of our liberties and to the health and well-being of our system of law that they carry out their duty to serve on a jury when called; and

WHEREAS, our citizen-employers must continually be encouraged to support the decisions of their employees who wish to serve on juries; and

WHEREAS, County of Los Angeles' Citizens Against Lawsuit Abuse has been a tireless advocate for constructive reform of the civil justice system, and a fearless combatant against abuse of the civil justice system; and

WHEREAS, one of the most effective ways to root out lawsuit abuse is for citizens to bring their common sense to the jury box;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that The County of Los Angeles recognizes the week of May 10-14, 2004, as "Juror Appreciation Week" and commend the Citizens Against Lawsuit Abuse for its work in affecting positive change in the public's attitude and behavior towards jury service.